



## OFFICE OF ILLINOIS STATE TREASURER

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### **Illinois Treasurer Michael Frerichs Seeks to Reunite Rockford-Area Residents with Assets, Mementos**

#### *\$31 Million Available from Winnebago, Boone, Stephenson Counties*

**SPRINGFIELD** – Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs’ staff will be in Rockford on Monday, April 27, to help reunite citizens with unclaimed property through the I-Cash program.

In Winnebago, Boone and Stephenson counties, an estimated 170,000 people have unclaimed cash or property that is being safeguarded by the Treasurer’s Office. The value exceeds \$31 million. Statewide, the Treasurer secures more than \$2.1 billion in unclaimed cash and property.

“Jewelry, coins, and family mementos tucked away in a safe deposit box are common examples of items that we hold for safe keeping as we try to locate the proper owners,” Frerichs said. “These items do not belong to the state and should be returned to their rightful owners.”

Frerichs’ I-Cash Unclaimed Property team was invited to the Zeke Giorgi Center, 200 S. Wyman St., by Rep. Litesa Wallace and Sen. Steve Stadelman. Assistance will be available from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. The Treasurer’s Office never charges money for its assistance to reclaim cash or property.

The Illinois Treasurer’s office is the custodian of unclaimed property including lost bank accounts, insurance policy proceeds, and forgotten safe deposit boxes. Items are surrendered after private entities tried for at least five years to locate the owners. The Treasurer’s Office holds more than \$2.1 billion in unclaimed property. Because hundreds of thousands new items are surrendered each year, residents should check the I-Cash database every six months. Visit [illinoistreasurer.gov](http://illinoistreasurer.gov) or call 217.785.6998.

The Illinois Treasurer is the state’s chief investment officer and Frerichs is a Certified Public Finance Officer. He protects consumers by encouraging savings plans for colleges and trade schools, increasing financial education among all ages, and removing barriers to a secure retirement. The \$27 billion investment portfolio includes \$5 billion on behalf of local and state government units and \$7 billion in savings for college or trade school. The investment approach is conservative to ensure the safety of principal. Funds also are invested in support of community development efforts. The Treasurer’s office predates Illinois’ incorporation in 1818. Voters in 1848 voted to make it an elected office.

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